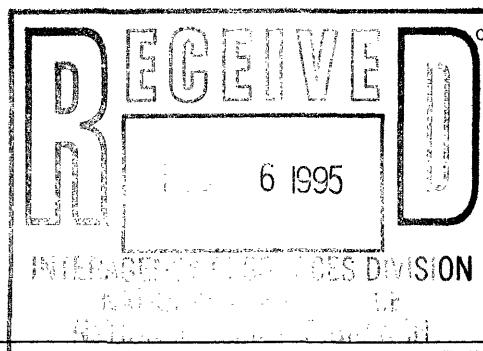


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM



OMB No. 1024-0018

1. Name of Property

historic name: Cut Bank Ranger Station Historic District

other name/site number: N/A

2. Location

street & number: N/A

not for publication: n/a

vicinity: Northside Cut Bank Creek; Glacier National Park (GLAC)

city/town: East Glacier

state: Montana code: MT

county: Glacier code: 35

zip code: 59434

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination    request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets    does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant    nationally X statewide    locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature]  
Signature of certifying official/Title

12.5.95  
Date

National Park Service

State or Federal agency or bureau

In my opinion, the property    meets    does not meet the National Register criteria.

[Signature]  
Signature of commenting or other official

SEP 29 1995  
Date

Montana State Historic Preservation Office

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- ☒ entered in the National Register  
   see continuation sheet
- determined eligible for the National Register  
   see continuation sheet
- determined not eligible for the National Register  
   see continuation sheet
- removed from the National Register  
   see continuation sheet
- other (explain)

[Signature] Signature of the Keeper

Entered in the  
National Register

Date of Action

1/19/96

## 5. Classification

<b>Ownership of Property:</b> Public-Federal	<b>Number of Resources within Property</b>		
<b>Category of Property:</b> District	<b>Contributing</b>	<b>Noncontributing</b>	
<b>Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register:</b> N/A	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<b>building(s)</b>
<b>Name of related multiple property listing:</b> Glacier National Park Multiple Property Listing	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<b>sites</b>
	<u>1</u>	<u>          </u>	<b>structures</b>
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<b>objects</b>
	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<b>Total</b>

## 6. Function or Use

<b>Historic Functions:</b>	<b>Current Function:</b>
Government/Domestic (ranger station/single family dwelling)	Same

## 7. Description

<b>Architectural Classification:</b>	<b>Materials:</b>
Other: pioneer; Rustic	<b>foundation:</b> stone; stone pier
	<b>walls:</b> log; exposed-frame; corrugated metal
	<b>roof:</b> wood shake
	<b>other:</b>

## Narrative Description

The Cut Bank Ranger Station is located on a gravel road, northeast of the Cut Bank Campground and the Cut Bank Pass Trail (part of the Inside Trail) in the valley created by the North Fork of Cut Bank Creek. Spectacular views of the adjacent mountains are afforded and the site exhibits the mix of evergreen and deciduous trees, meadow, and mountain that characterizes the Rocky Mountain Front. District resources include a Ranger Station (office and dwelling), a barn and associated corral system, a woodshed, and an oil house. Of these resources, all but the oil house, constructed in 1949, contribute to the significance of the district. Modern development in the immediate vicinity of the station is limited to an outhouse, excluded from the district boundaries.

### Cut Bank Ranger Station (building #148), 1917

The Cut Bank Ranger Station (office and dwelling) is a single-story rectangular building constructed of reverse saddle-notched logs with cement chinking and square-cut ends. The building rests on a series of stone piers. Unpainted wood shingles cover the steeply-pitched, log-framed gable roof. The roofline extends to shelter a log-framed open front porch with a wooden floor; the gable end is open, exposing the log-truss. Roof features include a brick chimney located high within the northeast gable slope and exposed log purlins and eight-inch rafters.

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## 8. Statement of Significance

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Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

Applicable National Register Criteria: A; C

Areas of Significance: Government; Architecture

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Period(s) of Significance: 1917-1945

Significant Person(s): N/A

Significant Dates: 1917, 1935

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: National Park Service; Civilian  
Conservation Corps (CCC)

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### Narrative Statement of Significance

The Cut Bank Ranger Station Historic District is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places at the state level, under criteria A and C, for its association with park administrative development and with rustic architecture. The Cut Bank Ranger Station was manned year-round until the late 1930s when the NPS chose to staff Cut Bank and several other ranger stations only during the summer months. This pattern of use continues today. Its period of significance extends from the 1917 construction of the primary building through the end of the historic period as defined by the National Register (1945). The station is a component of the Minor Developed Areas property type, as defined in the Glacier National Park Multiple Property Listing.

#### Ranger Station (#148)

Built with funds from a 1917 appropriation, the Cut Bank Ranger Station (dwelling and office) represents one of the first park buildings erected under the aegis of the fledgling National Park Service. Upon the station's completion, it was staffed by a permanent ranger who patrolled the Cut Bank Valley, represented the park service at the nearby campground and the Great Northern Hotel Company's Cut Bank Chalets, and performed year-round boundary patrols. The building is one of Glacier's oldest ranger facilities in regular seasonal use. Its design, predating standardized "rustic" architecture, is reminiscent of local pioneer construction; its lines are similar to the historic St. Mary Ranger Station and other now vanished early ranger outposts. The building is a key contributing component of the historic district.

#### Barn (#419)

Provisions for the care and stabling of horses had presumably been made available at the Cut Bank Ranger Station from its earliest days of operation. Park records reveal an "old barn" at the Cut Bank site, and photographs show a garage-like building near the current barn, constructed on the lines of the nearby ranger residence. A 1935 construction project provided new barns for many of the park's ranger stations, including the Cut Bank facility. The buildings used a standard, rustic plan prepared by the NPS Branch of Plans and Design and are now among Glacier's finest examples of exaggerated rustic design. The Cut Bank barn was completed at an estimated cost of \$1,300; all work was performed by the Civilian Conservation Corp. The barn is a key contributing component of the historic district.

#### Woodshed (#420)

The woodshed was apparently built during the 1935 construction season at an approximate cost of \$200. CCC crews most likely built the woodshed as well as the barn. The building shares a basic design with several other woodsheds throughout the park, and is a fine example of NPS modified rustic architecture: the exposed exterior log framing provides rustic detail without the expense of log construction. It contributes to the historic district.

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**9. Major Bibliographic References**

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"Individual Building Data File: Ranger Station." Records File 75-28, George C. Ruhle Library, Glacier National Park.

Hufstetler, Mark, "Glacier Historic Structures Narrative Histories and Classified Structure Field Inventory Report," 1987. George C. Ruhle Library and Archives, West Glacier, MT.

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.  
☐ previously listed in the National Register  
☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register  
☐ designated a National Historic Landmark  
☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary Location of Additional Data:**

☒ State Historic Preservation Office  
☐ Other State agency  
☐ Federal agency  
☐ Local government  
☐ University  
☐ Other -- Specify Repository: \_\_\_\_\_

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**10. Geographical Data**

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Acreage of Property: 1.8 acres

**UTM References:****Zone****Easting****Northing**

A 12

524830

5386180

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**Verbal Boundary Description**

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The boundaries incorporate all buildings and structures associated with the ranger station during the historic period. (See attached sketch map.)

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**Boundary Justification**

These boundaries conform to the area of historical development.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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name/title: Ann Hubber (from LCS forms prepared by Mark Hufstetler, 1986)

organization: Historical Research Associates, Inc.

date: 6/1995

street & number: P.O. Box 7086

telephone: (406) 721-1958

city or town: Missoula

state: MT

zip code: 59807-7086

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**Property Owner**

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name/title: National Park Service

street & number: Park Headquarters, Glacier National Park

telephone: (406)888-5441

city or town: West Glacier

state: MT

zip code: 59936

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Cut Bank Ranger Station Historic District, Glacier Co.,  
MT

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### 7. Narrative Description, continued

A wood-frame shed-roofed addition on the rear elevation of the building is covered with lapped horizontal wood siding. Rolled roofing covers the roof. Two wood-framed four-light by four-light sliding-sash windows are symmetrically placed within both side elevations of the original component. The front elevation, protected by the roof extension, contains an offset 4/4/4 sliding-sash window flanked to the northeast by a door constructed of vertical planks and paired with a wood screen door. Both gable ends contain a small four-light window. Features within the rear-elevation addition include a six-light by six-light sliding-sash window within the northwest elevation and a six-light awning window, flanked to the south by a vertical plank door, within the northeast elevation. Rear elevation features are limited to a small particle-board box used to store propane tanks. All windows are wood-frame with four-inch surrounds. The building is painted dark brown with white trim and is in good condition.

In 1987, the interior was described as "demonstrat[ing] structural logs with log chinking in between. There is a wooden ceiling supported by log members. Interior walls consist of painted plywood, painted fiberboard, painted logs, and painted wainscoting. The interior floors are varnished 1" x 4" fir." HRA was unable to access the building and cannot expand upon this description or evaluate current condition.

The 1943 addition is small, located on the rear elevation, and does not significantly impair integrity of material, workmanship, or design.

### Barn (#419), 1935

The barn is located south of the administrative complex, immediately adjacent to Cut Bank Creek. This location provides ready access to water for station stock; the pole corral associated with the barn extends to the edge of the creek and features a watering trough along the creek's southwest bank. The corral has been evaluated as a contributing structure.

The Cut Bank barn is a one-and-one-half story rectangular building constructed of saddle-notched logs with chopper-cut ends. The building rests on a concrete foundation. Wood shingles cover the front-gable roof. Roof features include exposed log rafter and purlin ends and an extended ridge pole that may once have supported a winch system.

The front (east) elevation contains an offset Dutch door constructed of vertical planks secured with diagonal cross braces, a four-light window, and a hayloft door -- also constructed of vertical planks secured with diagonal braces -- centered within the upper level. The south (side) elevation contains a centrally-placed dutch door flanked to either side by a six-light window. There are no features on the rear (west) or north elevation. The building is painted brown and is in generally good condition, with some deterioration evident in the log ends.

In 1987, the building's interior contained two stalls with feed bins, as well as a grain room. The interior surfaces were unfinished. A ladder provided access to the hayloft. The floors were dirt at the first floor level, and plank in the hayloft. This floorplan and these materials conformed to the original design. HRA was unable to access the interior and can not expand upon this description or evaluate current condition.

The building appears to be unmodified.

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Cut Bank Ranger Station Historic District, Glacier, Co.  
MT

### Woodshed (#420), 1935

The Cut Bank woodshed, located approximately 25' northwest of the ranger station, is a single-story building constructed of exposed log framing, with walls of vertical wood members. The building rests on a stone-pier foundation. Wood shingles, bearing remnants of the original green paint, cover the front-gable roof. Roof features include exposed frame rafter ends and log purlin ends. An inset entry area, protected by the primary roof, is offset within the front (southeast) elevation, breaking the simple square footprint.

Features are limited to a boarded-over four-light window within the southwest elevation and a six-inch vertical board door located within the "ell" created by the inset entry. A small storage cupboard, approximately 2'x3'x9' is located just off the southeast corner of the porch, under the protective cover of the eave. The building is painted brown with white trim.

The roof shelters two rooms and a rectangular porch area. The larger rear room was designed for wood storage; the smaller room was for coal. The interior walls are the interior sides of the vertical wood exterior walls. The floors are dirt. The woodshed is unmodified.

### Gas and Oil House (#423), 1949

For fire safety reasons, NPS crews constructed the gas and oil house at the southwest edge of the site, approximately 100 feet from the ranger station (building #148) and the woodshed (building #420).

This is a single-story wood-frame building with a square footprint. There is no apparent foundation. Corrugated metal covers the front gable roof, all exterior elevations, and the pedestrian door centered within the front (southeast) elevation. Metal also covers a window opening offset within the northeast elevation. Rafter ends are exposed. The roof is painted green and walls are painted brown. The building is in good condition.

The one-room interior features the exposed roof framing system, unfinished walls, and a dirt floor. The building retains integrity.

## 8. Statement of Significance, continued

### Gas and Oil House (#423)

As the twentieth century advanced, Glacier's ranger force developed an increasing reliance on mechanical aids: motor vehicles supplemented horses, chain saws supplemented the axe, and electric generators came into use. All these innovations required fuel, and many ranger stations utilized kerosene (and later propane) for cooking, light, or heat. During the 1930s and 1940s, small oil houses were built in many park locations to store combustible fuels: the Cut Bank Gas and Oil House was built by NPS crews in 1949 at an approximate cost of \$200. This small building is typical of the gas and oil houses that were erected at most of Glacier's ranger stations during the 1940s. It reflects the ranger's increasing dependence on mechanization as the 20th century progressed. However, the building does not meet the National Register age criteria or criteria consideration G and is a noncontributing component of the proposed Cut Bank Ranger Station Historic District. The building retains physical integrity and, once 50 years old, should be reevaluated for eligibility.

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Section number      Photographs      Page 7      Cut Bank Ranger Station, Glacier County, MT.

## Photographs

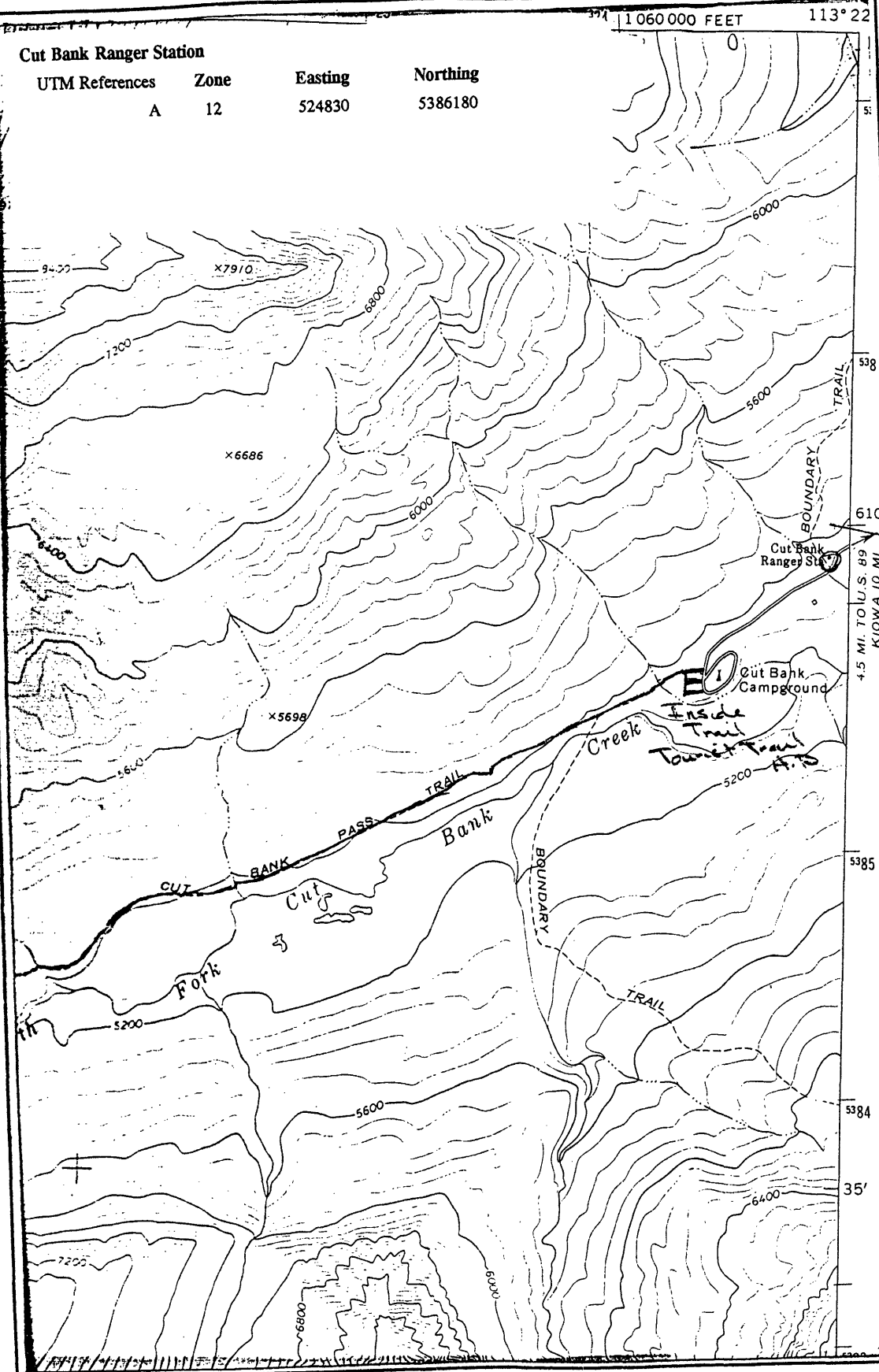
The following information applies to all photographs listed below:

- 1) Photographers: Nancy Niedernhofer
- 2) Date of  
Photographs: September 1993
- 3) Location of  
Negatives: National Park Service, RMR-RC, Denver, CO

PHOTO NUMBER	BUILDING NAME AND NUMBER	DIRECTION OF VIEW
1	Ranger Station (HS148)	View to NW
2	Ranger Station (HS148)	View to SW
3	Ranger Station (HS148)	View to SE
4	Barn (HS419)	View to SW
5	Barn (HS419)	View to NW
6	Barn (HS419)	View to NE
7	Woodshed (HS420)	View to NW
8	Woodshed (HS420)	View to NE
9	Woodshed (HS420)	View to SE
10	Cupboard (HS421)	View to N
11	Cupboard (HS421)	View to NE
12	Oil Storage Shed (HS423)	View to NW
13	Oil Storage Shed (HS423)	View to W
14	Oil Storage Shed (HS423)	View to SW
15	Pit Toilet (Unnumbered)	View to N
16	Pit Toilet (Unnumbered)	View to E

# Cut Bank Ranger Station

UTM References	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	12	524830	5386180



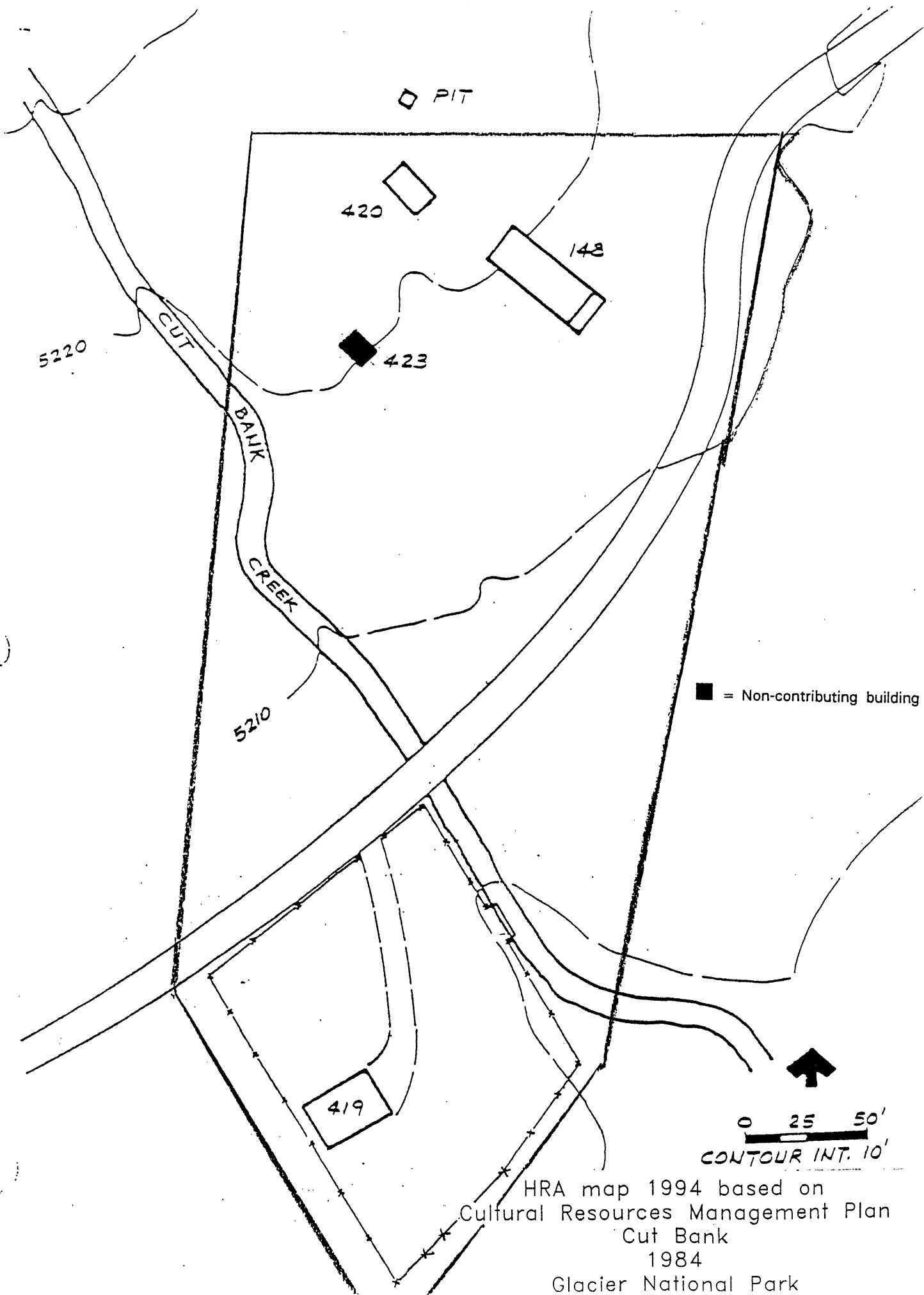
Cut  
Bank  
Ranger  
Station

0 1 2 3 4  
thousand feet

1: 24000

USGS 7.5' Quad Cut Bank Pass  
Sec. 7 T. 1 R. 1  
County Gibson





United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 95001566

Date Listed: 1/19/96

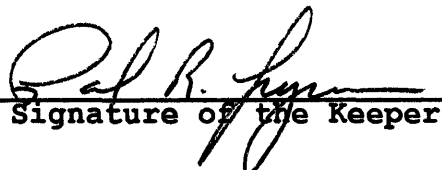
Cut Bank Ranger Station  
Historic District  
Property Name

Glacier  
County

MT  
State

Glacier National Park MPS  
Multiple Name

-----  
This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

  
Signature of the Keeper

1/19/96  
Date of Action

=====

Amended Items in Nomination:

U.T.M. Coordinates:

The correct UTM coordinates should read:

A. 12 324830 5386180

This information was confirmed with Kathy McKoy of the NPS.

DISTRIBUTION:

National Register property file

Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)